

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-0432

Mrs. S. Burton House

14905 York Road

Sparks, Baltimore County

1870 ca.

Private

The vernacular Mrs. S. Burton House, constructed circa 1870, dates to a late 19th century period of growth in the Eighth District village of Philopolis. The village of Philopolis Post Office, was already beginning to thrive by the mid-19th century. The community's name came from a professor at the Milton Academy—the local boarding school—who taught classical Greek. In addition to the boys' boarding school, there were numerous dwellings, a public schoolhouse, gristmill and a general store in the village. Philopolis continued to grow rapidly, and by 1877, a tavern and two blacksmith's shops were established there. In the late 19th century, the community also included an undertaker and milliner. At that time the dwelling at 14905 York Road was occupied by Mrs. S. Burton. Although the community continued to develop through the early 20th century, its growth slowed. The 1915 county atlas reveals that the building was then occupied by N. Smith. By 1915, the village's name had fallen out of general use. Since the mid-1900s, Philopolis has become engulfed by the neighboring community of Sparks.

The Mrs. S. Burton House is a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide wood frame dwelling clad in aluminum siding with a solid random rubble stone foundation and an asphalt-shingled side gable roof. The façade, or west elevation, is centrally pierced by one six-panel single-leaf wood door flanked by two 2/2 windows. Two 2/2 windows pierce the second story. All façade openings have aluminum surrounds and sills. Extending to the east is a full-width ell with a gable roof. One exterior concrete block chimney bisects the south elevation of the ell, while an exterior end stretcher bond brick chimney rises along the ell's east elevation, which is banked into the hillside behind the house. One-story, shed roofed additions project from the south elevation of the ell and main block and the east elevation of the ell. Projecting from the north elevation of the main block and ell is a one-story addition with a gable roof. This wing, which is clad in pressed vertical board siding, sits on a poured concrete foundation. Located northeast of the dwelling is a log outbuilding of unknown historic use. The building dates at least to the mid-19th century. The one-and-a-half-story structure features steeple-notched joinery, wood shingle chinking, and concrete daubing. The one-story shed, which dates to circa 1940, is composed of a one-bay-square section with a hipped roof and a one-bay-wide wing with a side gable roof. The circa 1940 garage is a one-story wood frame building clad in asphalt shingles with a poured concrete foundation and a front gable roof clad in standing seam metal. Three non-historic resources are also associated with the property.

Inventory No. BA-0432

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Mrs. S. Burton House (preferred)

other Nicholas S. Price House

2. Location

street and number 14905 York Road not for publication

city, town Sparks - vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Nicholas S. and Hazel M. Price

street and number	14905 York Road	telephone	Not Available
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city, town	Sparks	state	MD	zip code	21152
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4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 5623 folio 352

city, town	Towson	tax map	34	tax parcel	230	tax ID number	0816076630
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5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
___district	___public	___agriculture	___landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	___commerce/trade	___recreation/culture	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
___structure	___both	___defense	___religion	___	___ sites
___site		<u>X</u> domestic	___social	___	<u>1</u> structures
___object		___education	___transportation	___	___ objects
		___funerary	___work in progress	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u> Total
		___government	___unknown		
		___health care	___vacant/not in use		
		___industry	___other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory <u>1</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0432

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1870, the Mrs. S. Burton House is a vernacular two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide wood frame dwelling clad in aluminum siding with a solid random rubble stone foundation and an asphalt-shingled side gable roof. The façade, or west elevation, is centrally pierced by one six-panel single-leaf wood door flanked by two 2/2 windows. Two 2/2 windows pierce the second story. All façade openings have aluminum surrounds and sills. Extending to the east is a full-width ell with a gable roof. One exterior concrete block chimney bisects the south elevation of the ell, while an exterior end stretcher bond brick chimney rises along the ell's east elevation, which is banked into the hillside behind the house. One-story, shed roofed additions project from the south elevation of the ell and main block and the east elevation of the ell. Projecting from the north elevation of the main block and ell is a one-story addition with a gable roof. This wing, which is clad in pressed vertical board siding, sits on a poured concrete foundation.

Located northeast of the dwelling is a log outbuilding of unknown historic use. The building dates at least to the mid-19th century. The one-and-a-half-story structure features steeple-notched joinery, wood shingle chinking, and concrete daubing. The building sits on a solid coursed rubble stone foundation and features an asphalt-shingled side gable roof. The façade, or west elevation, is pierced by one flush-vertical-board single-leaf wood door with a square-edged wood surround.

The one-story shed, which dates to circa 1940, is composed of a one-bay-square section with a hipped roof and flush-vertical-board single-leaf door and a one-bay-wide wing with a side gable roof and a flush-vertical-board divided single-leaf door and one six-light awning window. Both roofs are clad in wood shingles. The entirety of the wood frame structure is clad in flush vertical board siding.

The circa 1940 garage is a one-story wood frame building clad in asphalt shingles with a poured concrete foundation and a front gable roof clad in standing seam metal. One concrete block chimney bisects the rear elevation, while the façade features two flush-vertical-board double-leaf doors.

Three non-historic resources are also associated with the property. The one-story circa 1970 shed is clad in metal with a double-leaf sliding door. The circa 1990 shed is clad in pressed vertical board siding with a side gable roof clad in sheet asphalt and features one flush single-leaf wood door. The in-ground swimming pool dates to circa 1980 and has a concrete deck.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0432

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1870 ca.-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1870 ca., 1970 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The vernacular Mrs. S. Burton House, constructed circa 1870, dates to a late 19th century period of growth in the Eighth District village of Philopolis. The village of Philopolis Post Office, was already beginning to thrive by the mid-19th century. The community's name came from a professor at the Milton Academy—the local boarding school—who taught classical Greek.¹ In addition to the boys' boarding school, there were numerous dwellings, a public schoolhouse, gristmill and a general store in the village.² Philopolis continued to grow rapidly, and by 1877, a tavern and two blacksmith's shops were established there.³ In the late 19th century, the community also included an undertaker and milliner.⁴ At that time the dwelling at 14905 York Road was occupied by Mrs. S. Burton. Although the community continued to develop through the early 20th century, its growth slowed. The 1915 county atlas reveals that the building was then occupied by N. Smith. By 1915, the village's name had fallen out of general use.⁵ Since the mid-1900s, Philopolis has become engulfed by the neighboring community of Sparks.

¹ S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. Clemens and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 23.

² J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

³ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

⁴ S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. Clemens and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 23.

⁵ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0432

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acre

Acreage of historical setting Unknown

Quadrangle name Hereford

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1870, the Mrs. S. Burton House has been associated with the .696 acres of land known as tax parcel 230 of map 34 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

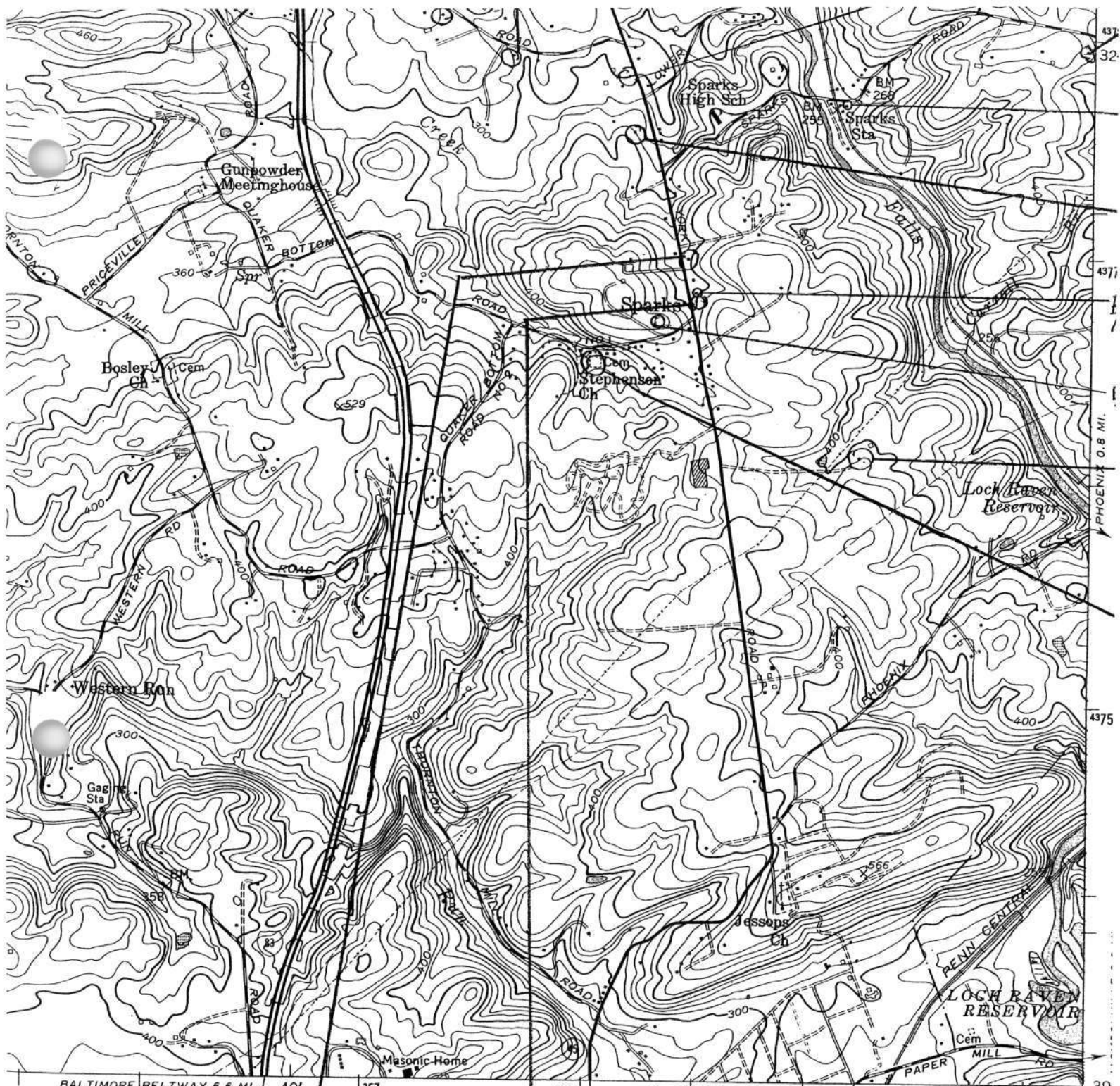
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

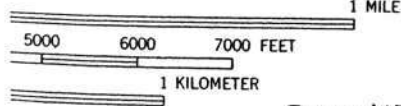
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



BALTIMORE BELTWAY 6.6 MI. BALTIMORE (CITY HALL) 17 MI. COCKEYSVILLE 1.3 MI. TOWSON (COURTHOUSE) 7.4 MI. COCKEYSVILLE 1.6 MI. INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1975



BA-0432
14905 YORK ROAD
SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	State Route

HEREFORD, MD.

N3930—W7637.5/7.5

1958

PHOTOREVISED 1974
AMS 5663 II SW—SERIES V833

OF 1929
ACQ
URV
RGINIA 22092
IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



BA-0432

14905 YORK ROAD, SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

SW CORNER

1 of 6



BA-0432

14905 YORK ROAD, SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

SE CORNER

2 of 6



BA-0432

14905 YORK ROAD, SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

NE CORNER

3 of 5



BA-0432
14905 YORK ROAD, SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
3/2001
MD SHPO
POOL + LOG BUILDING
4 of 6



BA-0432

14905 YORK ROAD, SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

SHED

5 of 6



BA-0432

14905 YORK ROAD, SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

GARAGE

6 of 6

BA-432

NICHOLAS S. PRICE HOUSE - 1850-1875 - 14905 York Road, east side, 0.2 mile south of Sparks Road. Shown as Mrs. S. Burton's in 1877 atlas and as "Mrs. Burton's" in 1898 atlas. Shown as N. Smith's in 1915 atlas; the 1918 tax ledger carried Nathaniel Smith with a dwelling 18 x 24 and 31 x 25. Small, two story house, three bays wide, in vernacular style with gable roofing. Frame back building. Butterscath-colored aluminum siding; 2-on-2 windows. Very close to road. Good condition. Owner: Nicholas S. Price.